

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 remain present in this application.

The title, specification, and claims 13 and 14 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

It is noted that the title has been amended to correct a minor typographical error.

Claims 13 and 14 stand objected to for certain informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that these informalities have been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR, U.S. Patent 5,923,099, in view of LEE et al., U.S. Patent 5,815,409. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4-6 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR and LEE, and further in view of SPEARS et al., U.S. Patent 6,304,981. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR and LEE, and further in view of ARAKAWA et al., U.S. Patent 6,105,138. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

BILIR teaches a backup power controller which comprises (1) shutdown control means, (2) first counter means, (3) power shutdown means, and (4) aborting means. BILIR does not disclose the switch module for generating and outputting signals to a central processing unit (CPU) so as to handle shutdown events of the external apparatuses, as described in the invention.

In view of LEE, a control system for auto shutdown of a power supply is taught. Items SW311, D321, D312, and T313 in Fig. 4 of LEE, for example, perform the functionality of turning off the power supply while SW311 is turned OFF. However, an objective of the present invention is to provide a simple shutdown device that can safely and entirely turn off all or some predetermined apparatuses connected to a UPS system and finally safely shut down the power of the UPS itself. Neither BILIR nor LEE teach means for safely and entirely turning off the external apparatuses. That is, combining the teachings of BILIR and LEE does not reveal the procedure or technique to safely and entirely turn off all or some predetermined apparatuses connected to a UPS system and finally safely shut down the power of the UPS itself, as is disclosed in the present invention. Thus, independent claim 1 could not be accomplished by one of ordinary skill in the art by combining BILIR and LEE.

Because claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, and 17 depend from independent claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims should also be allowable over the prior art of record.

Independent claim 17 of the present application discloses the method corresponding to the device disclosed in claim 1. Thus, independent claim 17 is patentable over the prior art utilized by the Examiner for at least the same reasons set forth regarding independent claim 1.

With regard to SPEARS, this reference teaches a system and method for automatically determining the time interval required for an information handling system to reach a safe shutdown system, and then effecting such a shutdown. From lines 1-5 of column 4 in Spears, for example, the information handling system 120 may operate in a UPS environment to respond to an event, such as a power outage. As stated in lines 3-4 of column 4, for example, the UPS may be capable of powering down a plurality of connected apparatuses. However, complete functionality of handling the whole sequences of safely and entirely turning off all or some predetermined apparatuses connected to a UPS system and finally safely shutting down the power of the UPS itself, as disclosed in the present invention, would not have been disclosed even if the teachings of BILIR, LEE, and SPEARS were combined.

Accordingly, the secondary references utilized by the Examiner fail to overcome the deficiencies of the primary reference.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims should now be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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